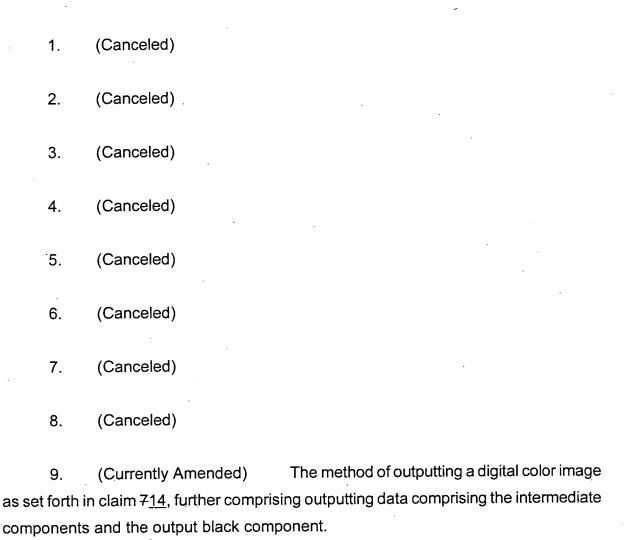
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:



10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) The method of outputting a digital color image as set forth in claim 4012, where the applying a different process to the intermediate components comprises minimizing CMY values.

12. (Currently Amended) <u>In an image output terminal, a the method of </u>
outputting a digital color image as set forth in claim 10, comprising:
converting input components corresponding to a color in a first color space to
intermediate components in a second color space, where the second color space
includes at least one intermediate component that is different from the input
components; and,
deriving an output black component from both the intermediate components and
the input components, wherein said deriving includes:
applying a defined process to the input components:
applying a different process to the intermediate components; and,
combining the processed input components and the differently processed
intermediate components;
wherein where the first color space includes HSV and the applying a defined
process comprises applying a function including H, S and V, where the function is
different depending on the position of an S value with respect to a threshold.
13. (Currently Amended) <u>In an image output terminal, a The</u> method of
outputting a digital color image as set forth in claim 10, comprising:
converting input components corresponding to a color in a first color space to
intermediate components in a second color space, where the second color space
includes at least one intermediate component that is different from the input
components; and,
deriving an output black component from both the intermediate components and
the input components, wherein said deriving includes:
applying a defined process to the input components;
applying a different process to the intermediate components; and,
combining the processed input components and the differently processed
intermediate components;
wherein where the first color space includes HSV and the applying a defined
process comprises applying a function including H, S and V, where the function is
different depending on the position of a V value with respect to a threshold.

14. (Currently Amended) <u>In an image output terminal, a The</u>-method of outputting a digital color image as set forth in claim 7, comprising:

converting input components corresponding to a color in a first color space to intermediate components in a second color space, where the second color space includes at least one intermediate component that is different from the input components; and

deriving an output black component from both the intermediate components and the input components;

wherein where the first color space comprises HSV and the deriving comprises:

applying a function to the intermediate components; and
for input components including V below a V threshold and S below an S
threshold, applying a function varying with V and the V threshold.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Original) The system as set forth in claim 14, where the input color space is defined in HSV and the functions include a first function g(H,S,V), and a second function h depending on the intermediate color separation, the system further comprising a calculator which calculates g(H,S,V) by implementing the equation:

$$g(H,S,V) = 1 - \begin{cases} a_H S^2 + b_H S + c_H & \text{for } S > S_t \text{ and } V > V_t \\ 1 - \left(1 - \frac{V}{V_t}\right)^2 & \text{for } S \leq S_t \text{ and } V < V_t \\ \left(a_H S^2 + b_H S + c_H\right) \left[1 - \left(1 - \frac{V}{V_t}\right)^2\right] & \text{for } S > S_t \text{ and } V < V_t \\ 1 & \text{for } S \leq S_t \text{ and } V > V_t \end{cases}$$

where coefficients a_H , b_H and c_H are different functions of hue angle, and S_t and V_t are threshold values for saturation and value, respectively.

- 17. (Original) The system as set forth in claim 14, where the intermediate color separations are defined in CMY.
- 18. (Original) The system as set forth in claim 14, further comprising a post-processor that adjusts the intermediate color separations based on the calculated achromatic color separation.